

April 1, 2019

Englewood Communicator



Englewood Presbyterian Church

Issue 4

Rob's Revelations by Dr. Robert Westlund

Dear Family,
The activity of "hospitality" is trending in several of the books I have read recently. In the Bible, hospitality is a way of life for God's people that permeates through the narratives of the Old and New Testaments. I Timothy 3 and Titus 1 mark hospitality as character traits for leadership. Romans 12, I Peter 4, and III John command us to be hospitable as followers of Christ. Hebrews 13:2 says, "Do not forget to show **hospitality** to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown **hospitality** to angels without knowing it."

Perhaps "trending" is not the right description. Hospitality is being touted as the major mode for sharing the Gospel in our post modern - post Christian world. Without getting too long winded, our world, our culture is one that Christians find themselves on the fringes. We

are outliers, misfits, and the marginalized. We no longer hold a special place in culture, and have become one choice in our pluralistic global culture. If we think otherwise, we have our heads buried in the sand.

On the fringes, marginalized, is where the church in Acts started. On the fringes is where the church was persecuted. In our time on the fringes is where the church is perceived as irrelevant, judgmental, bigoted, old fashioned, and hypocritical. On the fringes is also where in the power of the Holy Spirit the church in Acts turned the world inside out and upside down proclaiming Christ.

Hospitality, entertaining people with good food and deep fellowship, is the activity of turning strangers into friends and friends into family. Hospitality requires authentic compassion and genuine desire to know and

enjoy the people God has put in our midst. Rossaria Butterfield in Her book, *The Gospel Comes with a House Key*, calls this type of hospitality - Radical Ordinary Hospitality. Radical because it goes against the flow of culture. Culture perceives community and fellowship as attainable through social media and text messages, but radical hospitality requires us to open our homes and lives, to be vulnerable to our neighbors and friends. Ordinary means it's not about the etiquette or decor as Martha Stewart would have us believe, it's about the interaction and the depth of fellowship.

For us as members of Englewood Presbyterian, this is already in our DNA. It is who we are; welcoming, friendly, authentic, genuine, loving, and we enjoy fellowship and good food. The shift, as always, is to extend who we are in Christ to the people in

our communities through authentic relational hospitality; turning strangers into friends and friends into FAMILY. To extend this type of hospitality we are going to have to be vulnerable. We aren't perfect. Our homes are not always spotless and southern living photographable. We struggle with problems, anxieties, depression, finances, morality, parenting, taking care of parents, and everything else that comes with living in 2019. Radical Ordinary Hospitality exposes us in authentic ways that we may share our hope, our salvation, our blessedness, in Jesus Christ to the people God has placed in our lives. We have been lavished with the love and grace of God in Jesus Christ, I can think of no better place for that to be shared than over a good meal and deep fellowship.

In Jesus

Rob

Women's Fellowship

The Women's Fellowship will be visiting a local nursing home to distribute the Sunshine Bags on Saturday, April 13. You will leave the church at 9:30 am.

The women are inviting the men of the church to join them, as well!

You may still bring items for the Sunshine Bags to the church. Suggestions include: Travel-sized lotions, Kleenex, Puzzle books, Toothbrushes and toothpaste, Sugar-free candy, Pens and pencils, Stationery and stamps, Small stuffed animals, Devotionals, Combs and brushes.

Blood Drive

The next Red Cross Public Blood Drive will be held on Thursday, April 18, from noon to 6 pm and Friday, April 19, from 11 am to 4:30 pm.

We need volunteers and donors! Volunteers may sign up on the sheet provided on the bulletin board in the church lobby.

Donors can make appointments online at www.redcross.com or contact Paulette Pitt.

Holy Week



Everyone is invited to the Palm Sunday breakfast on Sunday, April 14, at 9:15 am. There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby for bringing food. Please have your food here by 9 am. There will be no Sunday School.

On that same day, during the morning worship service at 10:30 am, the children will be taking part in the Procession of the Palms.

Plan to be here to participate in the Maundy Thursday Service with Communion at 7 pm on April 18. This service reflects upon the last hours of Jesus' earthly life. This is a very solemn service and following it you will be asked to leave in silence.



The church office will be closed on Friday, April 19.

The Easter worship service will be held at 10:30 am on Sunday, April 21. Communion will be a part of the service.

Invite your family, friends and neighbors to join you! Keep your eyes open to those who are unchurched and ask them to join you, as well!





April Anniversaries

- 12 Earl and Elise Sears
- 23 Johnny and Frances Long

April Birthdays

- 1 Cindy Batchelor
- Kaitlyn Lewis
- Buck Young
- 4 Pat O'Brien
- Elsie Sears
- 6 Wink Hardesty
- 9 Ashlin Gravely
- Mary McMillan
- 12 George Harris
- 13 Allice Coats
- Amy Knox
- 19 Frances Long
- 25 Ginny Hodges
- Richard Rose

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Gary and Nancy Kirkwood upon the passing of Gary's dad, William "Bill" Calvin Kirkwood, on March 8th. Please remember Gary and his family in your prayers.

Serving in April

Greeters

- 4/7 Rex Bisette and Rusty Bryant
- 4/14 Buck and Sherry Young
- 4/21 Sadie Bisette and Ellen Henson
- 4/28 Richard and Karen Rose

Lay Readers

- Buck Young
- Phil Briggs
- Cindy Batchelor
- Daxie Dozier

Ushers

- 4/7 Ricky Pitt and Wink Hardesty
- 4/14 Harold and Nancy Colston
- 4/21 Johnny and Frances Long
- 4/28 Mac and Yvonne McLeod

Soundboard

- Yvonne McLeod and Leona Briggs
- Jeff Slack and Caleb Chesis
- (Maundy Thursday) Jeff Proctor and Cierra Devine
- Yvonne McLeod and Leona Briggs
- Jeff Slack and Cierra Devine

Children's Church

- 4/7 Kay Owen
- 4/14 Denise Bisette
- 4/21 Easter—No Children's Church
- 4/28 Jill O'Brien

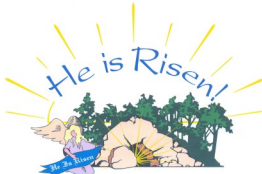
Backpacks

- 4/1 Anita Stander and Hope O'Keef
- 4/8 Yvonne McLeod and Mary Ruth Johnson
- 4/15 Frances and Johnny Long
- 4/22 No Bags—Spring Break
- 4/29 Kay Owen and OPEN

Elders of the Month: Nancy Kirkwood and Johnny Long



APRIL 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat						
	1 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm Missions Team, LIB, 7 pm	2	3 CORE, HI, 6:45 am Small Group, Gravely's, 6:30 pm Choir, CR, 7 pm	4 Bible Study, YB, 10:30 am Stitches of Love, YB, 11:30 am	5	6						
7 SS, 9:15 am Fellowship, 10 am Prayer for Service, 10:10 am Worship, 10:30 am Small Group, McLeods, 6:30 pm	8 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm	9 Women's Fellowship, LIB, 10 am	10 CORE, HI, 6:45 am Small Group, Gravely's, 6:30 pm Choir, CR, 7 pm	11 Bible Study, YB, 10:30 am Stitches of Love, YB, 11:30 am	12	13 Nursing Home Visitation, leave church at 9:30 am						
14 Easter Breakfast, FH, 9:15 am Worship, 10:30 am Small Group, McLeods, 6:30 pm <b style="color: purple;">Palm Sunday	15 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm	16 Presbyterian Men, FH, 6:30 pm	17 CORE, HI, 6:45 am Small Group, Gravely's, 6:30 pm Choir, CR, 7 pm	18 Stitches, YB, 10:30 am Maundy Thursday Service, SAN, 7 pm <div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 2px; text-align: center; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;">Blood Drives</div>	19 Good Friday, Church office closed	20						
21 Worship, 10:30 am  <b style="color: purple;">Easter Sunday	22 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm	23	24 CORE, HI, 6:45 am Small Group, Gravely's, 6:30 pm Choir, CR, 7 pm	25 Stitches of Love, YB, 10:30 am	26	27						
28 SS, 9:15 am Fellowship, 10 am Prayer for Service, 10:10 am Worship, 10:30 am Small Group, McLeods, 6:30 pm	29 Prayer, SAN, 6:30 pm	30	<div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> Presbytery Meeting—Winston Salem </div>									
<div style="border: 1px solid purple; padding: 10px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> Key <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">CR Choir Room</td> <td style="width: 50%;">LIB Library</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FH Fellowship Hall</td> <td>SAN Sanctuary</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HI Hampton Inn</td> <td>YB Youth Building</td> </tr> </table> </div>							CR Choir Room	LIB Library	FH Fellowship Hall	SAN Sanctuary	HI Hampton Inn	YB Youth Building
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Financial Information for March

March

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Tithes and Offerings	\$30,938.09	\$7,949.51	\$2,988.58
Other Income	<u>122.27</u>	<u>262.08</u>	(<u>139.81</u>)
Total	31,060.36	28211.59	2,848.77
Expenses	<u>29,560.88</u>	<u>27,178.11</u>	(<u>2,382.77</u>)
Total Income (Expense)	\$ 1,499.48	\$ 1,033.48	\$ 466.00

Year to Date

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Tithes and Offerings	\$73,806.93	\$83,848.53	(\$10,041.60)
Other Income	<u>355.49</u>	<u>786.24</u>	(<u>430.75</u>)
Total	74,162.42	84,634.77	(10,472.35)
Expenses	<u>77,355.39</u>	<u>82,958.65</u>	<u>5,603.26</u>
Total Income (Expense)	(\$ 3,192.97)	\$ 1,676.12	(\$ 4,869.09)



Memorials

Memorial Gifts have been given in memory of Bobby Jackson (Jeff Jackson's dad) by Craig and Rose Burnett, Leon and Sadie Bisette, Shirley Thompson Sellers

Memorial Gifts have been given in memory of Leland Palmer (Chris Palmer's son) by Betty Smith, Craig and Rose Burnett, Leon and Sadie Bisette, Anon-

ymous

Stewardship Builds Character

Pastor Cho's famous Korean congregation pioneered the small group movement that spread to the United States. (The concept built strong churches in China and elsewhere during the decades when Communism was repressing religion with an iron hand.)

Pastor Cho also has much to reach Americans about financial giving. He says that if a church does not teach giving, its people will never break the cycle of poverty. In Pastor Cho's congregation everyone (including infants) get offering envelopes.

Generous giving does not guarantee success in life. However, stewardship builds character. People who learn how to give unselfishly as small children are also learning the self-giving nature required of anyone who excels at any endeavor.

Special points of interest:

- *Nursing Home Visitation, Saturday, April 13, 9:30 am*
- *Easter Breakfast, Palm Sunday, April 14, 9:15 am*
- *Blood Drive, Thursday, April 18, noon to 6 pm and Friday, April 19, 11 am to 4:30 pm*
- *Maundy Thursday Service, April 18, 7 pm*
- *Easter Service, April 21, 10:30 am*

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April Newsletter